

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Rainbird Community Broadcasting Corporation****Project Title:**

Rainbird Community Broadcasting Corporation - Planning and Design for Replacement Facility

State Funding Requested: \$ 30,000**House District: 1 - A**

Future Funding May Be Requested

Brief Project Description:

Funding for Planning and Design of Replacement Facility for Public Radio Station.

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$30,000**Funding Secured*Amount FY*Other Pending Requests*Amount FY*Anticipated Future Need*Amount FY*

There is no other funding needed

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Item is \$30,000 for Planning and Design of Replacement Facility for Public Radio Station. KRBD-FM, Public radio is requesting \$30,000 for planning and design of a new broadcast facility in Ketchikan. The building housing KRBD is a 75 year warehouse that was never intended to be a professional office space. It facility is inefficient and un-safe for users, lacking ventilation, adequate electrical wiring, and other deficiencies that poses risks to employees and equipment.

KRBD-FM, a non-profit station provides vital services to more than 20,000 residents in Ketchikan, Saxman, Myers Chuck, Klawock, Hollis, Thorne Bay and Hydaburg, as well as other rural areas of Southern Southeast Alaska. In 1991, operations were moved into the current location, a building originally constructed in 1932 by church volunteers. Due to an expiring lease, a station move happened at an accelerated pace, and all efforts or money was not available for basic necessities such as proper air handling, hear, accessible restrooms, lighting and many other amenities standard for a professional work environment.

Construction funding is being sought through USDA and Denali Commission, this funding would begin the project and enable grant applications and local fundraising.

Project Timeline:

FY09

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

KRBD or Designee

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Jeff Seifert, General Manager

Phone Number: 907-225-9655

Address: 123 Stedman Street KTN, AK 99901

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No



KRBD

**105.9 FM
Ketchikan's
Public Radio**

To: Senator Bert Stedman
Fred Fisher

From: Jeff Seifert, KRBD General Manager, Ketchikan 225 9655
Mollie Kabler, Executive Director, CoastAlaska 747 5877

Re: Capital Request for Planning and Design for a replacement facility

Amount: \$30,000

KRBD-FM, public radio needs \$30,000 for planning and design for a new broadcast facility in Ketchikan. The building housing KRBD is more than 75 years old and was never intended to be a professional office space; it is essentially a warehouse with enclosed offices and studios built inside. It is inefficient for users and lacks internal environmental air quality control capability making it inadequate for people and equipment.

Current building equity and other traditional sources of public broadcasting capital funds; USDA and Denali Commission, are available for construction but planning and design funding is needed to access other resources.

Current areas of concern include:

- **Major Maintenance** on an old building that is a constant distraction from the mission of broadcasting
- **Inadequate air handling** – KRBD is in the process of installing a heating/cooling system for some areas of the facility, but core areas will remain without heating or cooling, and there is no ventilation to exhaust potential dangerous gases that rise each fall from the salmon stream that runs under the building.
- **Safety** – Other than the main entrance, KRBD has very little accessibility. More than 70 years of changes and renovations have created a confused and inadequate electrical system.
- **Inadequate parking** – No employee or guest parking. Very limited public parking.